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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

June 6, 2012

The President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Last week, we received a disappointing jobs report that showed far too many Americans are still struggling in this economy. Young people in particular have been hit hard, with only half of recent college graduates able to find full-time work. That's why we believe that the current, reduced rates for Stafford student loans should be extended for another year.

While the Republican-led House has already passed legislation to extend these rates, we sent you a letter, dated May 31, proposing additional savings that could be used to offset an extension. In an effort to find common ground, all of the options are recommendations from your own budget. With rates set to double at the end of this month, we had hoped this gesture would lead to a speedy resolution of the matter.

Unfortunately, we have not received any response from your administration. In fact, in public comments yesterday the Vice President and the Secretary of Education both seemed unfamiliar with the proposals we sent you. With all of the great economic challenges facing our country, there is no reason to manufacture political fights where there is no policy disagreement. That's why we cannot understand why you, without having responded to our latest offer, would schedule a campaign-style event in Nevada tomorrow to discuss student loan rates.

We urge you to consider cancelling tomorrow's Las Vegas rally and instead work with us so that we can extend these rates before they expire and stay focused on additional measures to help create jobs.

Sincerely,

John A Bookner

Eric Cantor